

READING FOR PLEASURE AT LEAVENING PRIMARY SCHOOL

S U M M E R T E R M 2 0 2 4



OAK TREES BOOK CLUB

Each Thursday afternoon, Mrs Mitchell introduces us to books that we would not ordinarily consider reading.

We also have the opportunity to share our own reading recommendations with each other with the aim of widening our reading diet and picking up books that we would not usually think about reading. A popular choice at the moment are the Diary of a Wimpy Kid books as well as the Guinness Book of records

We explore both fiction and non-fiction texts and are particularly enjoying comics and 'teach yourself how to draw' instruction books.

POP-UP LIBRARY DATES

This term:

- 27th June
- 11th July
- (collection only)

Autumn term:

- 12th September
- 3rd October
- 24th October
- 14th November



BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

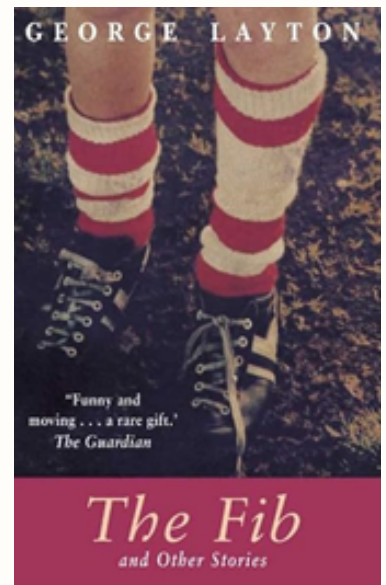
Our recommendation in this edition comes from **Jan Lomas** (a school governor)

'The Fib and Other Stories' is a book I often used to read to my Key Stage 2 children years ago when I was a young teacher. Whether they were Year 3 or Year 6, they loved them! Later on I read one of the stories to the parents when I was a new Headteacher of a primary school!! They loved it too!

The book is a collection of short stories written by George Layton. George is a great writer — and also a great actor! Clever man! The stories are about growing up in a Northern England town in the years of the 1950s! This was when I was growing up!! Although the 1950s must seem like ancient history to you children at Leavening School in 2024, I think you will love them!

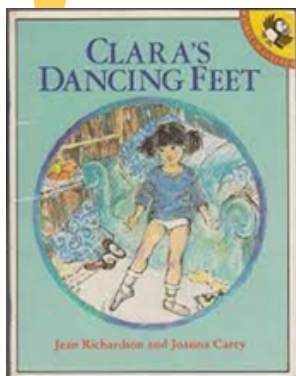
All children now - or then - know what growing up is like getting on — or not — with friends, getting into trouble and wishing you had never done that silly thing that has caused you bother, that bully who needs to learn how to be a better person and maybe even telling a fib that backfired on you! The stories are funny and you will want to read the next one and the next one!

Get hold of the book and when you have read it, tell me which story is the favourite! I can't wait to hear what you think when I come into school!



WHAT DID OUR ADULTS ENJOY READING AS CHILDREN?

A recommendation from **Mrs Peel**



My favourite book as a child was a book called Clara's Dancing Feet by Jean Richardson which was published in 1986. The book is about a little girl who loves to dance and she dances everywhere she can. She would like to start dance classes so goes along but there's a problem...her feet just won't move like they are glued to the floor! The book is about her overcoming her anxiety when dancing in front of people and how to just let go of any worries and enjoy herself. I remember loving the illustrations in the book too and one particular drawing where Clara has dancing ribbons which I then got as a child and I could dance just like Clara.



POETRY CORNER

Enjoy sharing
this poem
about
Summer by
Sinead
McNally



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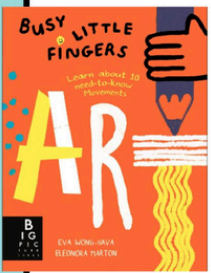
If you have any questions about our events or about library services, please email malton.library@northyorks.gov.uk or telephone 01609 534565

AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT: Eva Wong Nava



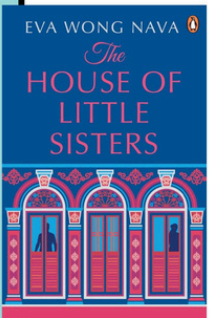
Eva Wong Nava is a child of the diaspora. She lives between two worlds and exists in many universes. Eva is an award-winning and best-selling author of children's books. She reads to escape and writes to help children do the same.

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVOURITE CHILDHOOD BOOK AND WHY?



Definitely *Charmed Life* by Diana Wynne Jones. It's a fantastical and absolutely charming story. I loved Eric (aka Cat) and Chrestomanci, and I have a love-hate relationship with the antagonist, Gwendolen, Cat's evil sister, who is a witch with supposedly strong magic. The story is so layered with unexpected twists and for a child who is fascinated by stories, magic, and escapism, it was such a memorable read.

WHICH OF YOUR OWN BOOKS IS YOUR FAVOURITE AND WHY?



I have written quite a few books for children. They're mostly picture books as this is what I'm known for. But I would say that my favourite book is *The House of Little Sisters*, my debut YA historical fiction novel published by Penguin Random House SEA. This book took me nearly two years to write and almost five years to research. I love this book most because I get to tell the story of bond servant girls in Southeast Asia (aka mui tsai) whose stories are so little known and told. I love historical fiction as a genre, whether it is in picture book format or a longer, novel, format, because I always learn so much about a period in history that I would otherwise not find out about. Not everything in history gets taught in classrooms, and historical fiction is, in my view, a great way to learn history. This book explores many themes such as social injustice, forbidden love, and violence against girls and women, that I feel should be added to the conversations in classrooms.

WHY DO YOU CHOOSE TO READ?



Books saved my life as a child. I wasn't a popular kid at school and was always left out of games. During break time, I would read my book and this made me feel less lonely. I go to books to escape as they transport me to so many different worlds and universes. Books showed me the infinite possibilities and stories that words can conjure. They showed me that the world is bigger than what I saw outside my window. And I knew that when I grew up, I wanted to write.